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cases in the Ryerson Library. Dr. Riese has generously consented to allow them to remain for a week or more in October, so that the students may have an opportunity to examine the illuminations and the fine design of the lettered pages. These manuscripts have great historical as well as artistic interest, bearing the signatures of the Empress Maria Theresa, Charles V, King of Spain and Emperor of Germany, Pope Gregory XIII, Pope Clement VIII and others.

### MEMORIAL TO MR. FRENCH

A MEMORIAL to William M. R. French, the late Director of the Art Institute, has been established by his brother, Daniel C. French, the sculptor. This memorial takes the form of a permanent endowment fund of eleven thousand dollars, to be known as the William Merchant Richardson French Memorial Fund. The income is to be used as a prize or scholarship to be awarded at least every two years to a student in the school of the Art Institute. This use seems especially fitting on account of the deep personal interest which Mr. French always took not only in the administration of the school but in the welfare and success of all its students.

### THE WIRT WALKER GALLERY

THE largest fund ever given to the Art Institute was received in June from the executors of the Wirt D. Walker estate, with the approval of the Circuit Court of Cook County.

Mr. Walker, who died April 25,

1899, at the age of thirty-eight, left a will which provides, under certain conditions, that a corporation be formed to be known as the Wirt Walker Gallery, the object of which is to be "the establishment and maintenance of a collection of works of art in the City of Chicago." The will suggests that a site for this gallery be secured if possible in Lincoln Park; and requests, after providing for certain payments, that the principal of the trust fund be kept intact and the income expended on the founding and maintenance of the Wirt Walker Gallery.

In the judgment of the executors, it was impossible to carry out in detail the plan set forth in the will. They could not secure a site in Lincoln Park; and many years would be required for the accumulated income to become sufficient for the purchase of a proper site and the building of a suitable gallery. Even then, the maintenance expenses would require so large a sum that there would be little left for the purchase of works of art.

The executors therefore decided that Mr. Walker's real desire, the establishment of a memorial art collection, could be better realized by establishing in the Art Institute of Chicago "The Wirt Walker Gallery." The Art Institute will furnish both gallery and maintenance, so the entire income can be devoted to the purchase of works of art, thus realizing in the most effectual manner Mr. Walker's main object.

Mr. Walker was closely connected with the Art Institute in its early and struggling days, as a Governing Member from 1886 until the date of his death, and as a Trustee from 1886 to